



Department of Justice

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TEACHER, YOUTH VOLUNTEER SENTENCED TO 20 YEARS FOR PRODUCING, DISTRIBUTING CHILD PORN

SPRINGFIELD, MO - Bradley J. Schlozman, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a former teacher and youth volunteer was sentenced in federal court today for charges related to producing and distributing child pornography.

Waylon J. Kaus, 27, of Lebanon, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Dean Whipple this morning to 20 years in federal prison without parole. The court also ordered **Kaus** to forfeit to the government three computers, a laptop computer, a digital camera, and CDs and disks containing child pornography that were seized by law enforcement officers.

“This defendant’s perverse behavior is all the more abhorrent because of the positions of trust he held in the community,” Schlozman said. “To sexually exploit such young and vulnerable victims is the kind of egregious and contemptible conduct for which only the most severe sentence is appropriate ”

Kaus is a former teacher at Ozark Children’s Academy in Ozark, Mo., and was the scoutmaster for a local Boy Scout troop. **Kaus** has also worked for an area Head Start program and for the public school district in Buffalo, Mo.

On May 4, 2006, **Kaus** pleaded guilty to coercing a minor male to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing child pornography on Aug. 13, 2004. **Kaus** also admitted that he distributed child pornography over the Internet on Dec. 22, 2005, that he received child pornography over the Internet on May 2, 2004, and that he was in possession of computer hard drives and disks that contained child pornography on Feb. 7, 2006.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rose A. Barber. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Lebanon, Mo., Police Department.

This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales launched Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify [and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit](#)

2. www.projectsafecchildhood.gov/.

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